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Waste — Tenant for Life without Impeachment of Waste — Whether Entitled to Proceeds from Ornamental Trees Taken by the Government. —The will of the testator created a tenancy for life without impeachment of waste with successive remainders over. During the possession of the life tenant ornamental trees were cut and taken by the government. Compensation was duly made to the trustees under the will. The trustees took out a summons to ascertain the disposition of the money. Held, that it be invested and held to the uses created by the will. Gage v. Piggot, 53 Ir. L. T. R. 33.

A tenant for life, although at law unimpeachable for waste, will nevertheless be restrained in equity from doing certain acts, termed equitable waste. Vane v. Lord Barnard, 2 Vernon, 738; Dincombe v. Felt, 81 Mich. 332, 45 N. W. 1004. See Chapman v. Epperson, 101 Ill. App. 161. To permit the retention of profits arising from an act which would have been enjoined would plainly be bad policy. Accordingly it has been held that an account of the proceeds of such acts will be ordered. Garth v. Colton, I Ves. 523; Ormonde v. Kynersley, 5 Madd. 360. A reversioner under such circumstances has even been allowed an action on the case, with the aid of a statute substituting such action for the old action of waste. Stevens v. Rose, 69 Mich. 259, 37 N. W. 205. But see Belt v. Simkins, 113 Ga. 894, 39 S. E. 430. It would seem, then, that a tenant for life unimpeachable for waste is in equity treated, in regard to equitable waste, much the same as is an ordinary life tenant in regard to legal waste. See Honywood v. Honywood, L. R. 18 Eq. 306, 311. The proceeds of timber which the former kind of tenant might rightfully cut may be retained by him. Baker v. Sebright, 13 Ch. Div. 179. If, on the other hand, he cuts timber which could not have been cut rightfully by such a tenant, — e. g. ornamental timber — he cannot have the proceeds. Honywood v. Honywood, supra. The fact that a trespasser cuts the timber will not change his rights. See Anonymous, Moseley, 237. The result will be the same where the timber is felled by accident or an act of nature. In re Harrison's Trusts, 28 Ch. Div. 220. The principal case logically applies the same rules when the government cuts under eminent domain. The same interests should be allowed to enjoy the proceeds as would have enjoyed the property; the accident of the cutting should not increase or lessen their interests. In re Harrison's Trusts, supra. The case is not without importance in the United States, since a tenant in fee subject to an executory devise is treated like a tenant for life without impeachment of waste. Turner v. Wright, 2 De G. F & J 234; Gannon v. Peterson, 193 Ill. 372, 62 N. E. 210.

WILLS — CONSTRUCTION — DISINHERITANCE BY EXPRESS CLAUSE IN WILL WITHOUT AFFIRMATIVE DISPOSITION TO ANOTHER. — A will which purported to dispose of all of the testator's property contained the provision that the testator's brother A "is not to have one penny" for a stated reason. Upon the lapse of certain legacies, A claimed as next of kin his share of the residue thus resulting. Held, that he may take. Muir v. Archdall, 19 New South Wales, 10.

According to the orthodox view, an heir cannot be excluded from taking by descent his share of the testator's estate except by a complete disposition of the property by will. Duff v. Duff's Ex'rs, 146 Ky. 201, 142 S. W. 242; Bradford v. Leake, 124 Tenn. 312, 137 S. W. 96. See I JARMAN ON WILLS, 6 ed., 335. This rule proceeds upon the theory that the testamentary power is merely a matter of statutory privilege, in derogation of the common law of descent and inheritance; and accordingly, that the testator has no greater powers than those granted by the statutes, which in terms refer only to affirmative disposition. See Coffman v. Coffman, 85 Va. 459, 461. See Page on WILLS, § 21. This doctrince is applied where there is a partial intestacy due to the invalidity of testamentary dispositions. Parsons v. Millar, 189 Ill. 107, 59 N. E. 606. Another view holds that the exclusion of one or several of the next of kin might be regarded as a gift to the others by implication, so that in final effect